Acid Town

by Kyuugou - Chapter 49

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THE MAN WHO SWORE TO PROTECT YUKI AND THE MAN WHO'S BEEN PLOTTING TO USE HIM FINALLY COME FACE TO FACE...

九號

KYUGO

I'M GOING TO RESET THIS TOWN.

YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WANT...

... WITH WHATEVER'S LEFT.

YEAH,

IT PROBABLY SOUNDS CRAZY.

IT'S SO RESTRAINING WHEN THE HIGHER-UPS GOT YOU BY THE SCRUFF, RIGHT?

BUT YOU'VE GOTTA BE GETTING TIRED OF IT ALL.

YOU MUST BE JOKING.

DO YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?

FLINCH

YOU CAN'T BE SATISFIED WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE, CAN YOU?

LAP

EVEN THOUGH YOU FINALLY BECAME A PART OF THE UPPER BRASS, YOUR TALENTS ARE WASTED AT A BRANCH OFFICE IN A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY.

LAP

JUST HOW LONG DO THEY EXPECT YOU TO BE ON STANDBY ON THIS ISLAND?

BUT THAT REASON IS KIND OF HALF-BAKED, ISN'T IT?

RIGHT?

YOU'RE MISTAKEN.

I ONLY CAME BACK TO THIS TOWN TO-

TO GET YOUR REVENGE ON HYOUDOU.

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY ...?

LAP

YOU'RE JUST BIDING YOUR TIME, AREN'T YOU?

FOR JUST THE RIGHT TIMING...

... TO CAUSE YOUR TARGET THE MOST PAIN.

LAP

NOTHING SERIOUS, I'M JUST SAYIN' I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL.

BUT IF IT REALLY WAS THAT EASY TO GET REVENGE, IT WOULDN'T BE ALL THAT INTERESTING, WOULD IT?

LAP

I'LL SET THE STAGE FOR YOU.

I UNDERSTAND I'LL NEED TO DO SOMETHING TO GAIN YOUR TRUST.

THOUGH, EVEN IF I SAY THAT,

I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY OF THAT.

IN EITHER THE LIFE I HAVE NOW, OR ALONG THE RAILS I'M EXPECTED TO FOLLOW,

THERE'S NO HOPE FOR ME.

I'M NOT ATTACHED.

THE SEIDOUKAI, SUCCEEDING MY FATHER,

WITH IT BEING A WIN-WIN RELATIONSHIP... WE WON'T BE ASKING TOO MUCH OF EACH OTHER,

AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'M AFTER MONEY OR STATUS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I'M NOT CONFIDENT YOU'LL TRUST ME, BUT...

ACCORDING TO MASATSUGU-SHI, CHAIRMAN DOUMOTO SECRETLY TOOK IN REIJI AFTER DESTROYING THE SANADA CLAN.

TEN YEARS AGO, IT SEEMS THAT REIJI AND CHAIRMAN DOUMOTO HAD A FIGHT OVER SOMETHING.

REIJI NAKA-MOTO.

ALL THAT'S LEFT ARE HIS RECORDS AND A SCHOOL PORTRAIT.

PREVIOUSLY REIJI SANADA, HE'S THE ONLY SON OF THE HEAD OF THE DESTROYED SANADA CLAN.

WHAT I WISH FOR...

REIJI NA

THE RECORDS SAY HIS DEATH WAS RULED A SUICIDE, BUT ACCORDING TO MASATSUGU -SHI, THAT WAS FAKED.

AFTER REIJI FLED TO SHANGHAI, IT SEEMS MASATSUGU -SHI REGULARLY MADE THE TRIP TO SHANGHAI FOR TRYSTS WITH REIJI.

IT'S CLEAR THAT HE FEELS A FAMILIAL BOND - OR SOMETHING MORE - FOR REIJI.

I BELIEVE THAT'S REASON ENOUGH TO HARBOR HATRED TOWARDS CHAIRMAN DOUMOTO.

HMPH.

IT SEEMS THAT WELL-OFF BASTARD'S QUITE TAKEN WITH THIS REIJI.

THAT PREPARED-NESS... TO THROW AWAY HIS PROMISED STATUS, RICHES, EVEN HIS COM-RADES-IN-ARMS - IT'S UTTERLY FOOLISH.

IT'S NOT LIKE I BLINDLY BELIEVE HIM, BUT IT'S AN ATTRACTIVE STORY FOR US.

OFFERING UP HIS BELOVED AS COLLATERAL...

HOW INTER-ESTING.

HE EVEN SAYS HE DOESN'T MIND IF I USE THIS "REIJI" AS MY PAWN.

IT'S FOOLISH, BUT...

HIS EYES WERE SERIOUS.

FOR THE TIME BEING, THERE'S NO HARM IN JUST LETTING THIS PLAY OUT.

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE CAUSING QUITE A RUCKUS OUT THERE,

REIJI.

TOK

TOK

I'M JUST STIRRING UP CHAOS WITH A SILVER TONGUE...

... TO LET YOU SAVE SOME ENERGY.

HMPH, I SEE.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT "RUCKUS,"

I ONLY LET THIS THROWN-TOGETHER RABBLE OF PUNKS RUN WILD.

WANG -TAIJIN.

SO IT SEEMS.

BUT I'M ALSO QUITE ENJOYING MYSELF.

NO... HE'S EVERY BIT THE UNYIELDING MAN THEY SAY HE IS.

BUT HYOUDOU WASN'T DRAWN IN, WAS HE?

I SEE...

GOOD, GOOD.

WITH OUR MEN IN PLACE TO MANIPULATE THE INFOR-MATION,

THE PLAN AS A WHOLE IS PROCEEDING WELL.

THE SEIDOUKAI WILL BE MEETING WITH CHANG THIS WEEKEND, AS PLANNED.

TO BE HONEST,

I DON'T TRUST YOU,

AND I THOUGHT IT BEST TO BE CAUTIOUS.

ONCE THIS BUSINESS WITH CHANG IS FINISHED, THERE'S NO GOING BACK FOR ME.

BUT WITH THIS TIMING,

IT SEEMS I'VE UNEXPECTEDLY GOT AN ACE UP MY SLEEVE.

AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

"YUKIO."

THE CHILD OF A FRIEND OF HYOUDOU'S I KILLED A WHILE BACK.

HIS MOTHER WAS A FILTHY WHORE.

BUT CHILDREN ARE PURE, NEW, AND BEAUTIFUL.

YUKIO SEEMED THAT WAY, TOO... AND HE WAS POPULAR WITH THE CUSTOMERS IN MY SALON, BUT,

AND NOW, I'VE HEARD THAT CHILD...

... IS IN HYOUDOU'S HANDS.

I HAVE THE BEST TOY TO BRING HYOUDOU DOWN RIGHT IN MY HANDS.

THIS IS FORTUITOUS FOR YOU AS WELL.

AND, WITH HYOUDOU BEING THE ONLY OBSTACLE IN YOUR PLANS,

THAT TOY WILL BE THE PERFECT PAWN TO UNSETTLE AND SUBDUE HIM.

ONE DAY, HE RAN OFF, AND HIS WHERE-ABOUTS WERE UNKNOWN FOR A WHILE.

BUT,

IT SEEMS HE SOMEHOW SURVIVED IN THIS TOWN.

THAT'S RIGHT.
AND FINALLY, WE COME HERE.
YOUR INTERESTS AND MINE ARE TRULY ALIGNED AT LAST.
THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.
THAT'S WHY I BIDED MY TIME.
THAT SOMEONE HE LOVED MORE THAN HIMSELF OR HIS CLAN SHOULD APPEAR ONCE MORE;
IT'S AS IF I DREAMED ABOUT IT EVERY NIGHT.
THE MOMENT I GET A KNIFE TO HIS THROAT!
HE INSTINCTIVELY KNEW I'D COME TO TAKE THEM.
FOR MANY YEARS, NOBODY OUTSIDE HIS ORGANIZATION COULD GET CLOSE TO HYOUDOU,
BECAUSE HE WAS TOO AFRAID OF SOMEONE HE LOVED BEING SNATCHED AWAY.

AND YET,
EVEN THOUGH I SAY THAT...

THANK YOU FOR GOING THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF MEETING WITH US, WANG-*DOUSHI.

I'M SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT CHANG-TAIJIN.

*"COMRADE"

THANK YOU, DOUMOTO-SAN.

I ALSO REGRET WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM,

AND I HOPE THAT TODAY'S TALKS BETWEEN THE HEILONG AND THE SEIDOUKAI WILL BE WORTHWHILE.

FIRST OFF, ACCORDING TO CHANG-TAIJIN'S AUTOPSY REPORT RELEASED BY THE POLICE...

AND YET, EVEN THOUGH I SAY THAT...

...

THIS INCIDENT HAS SPREAD WIDELY AND IS SOWING CHAOS.

WE'LL START WITH SHARING INFORMATION AND PUTTING EVENTS IN ORDER.

AL.

YES, SIR.

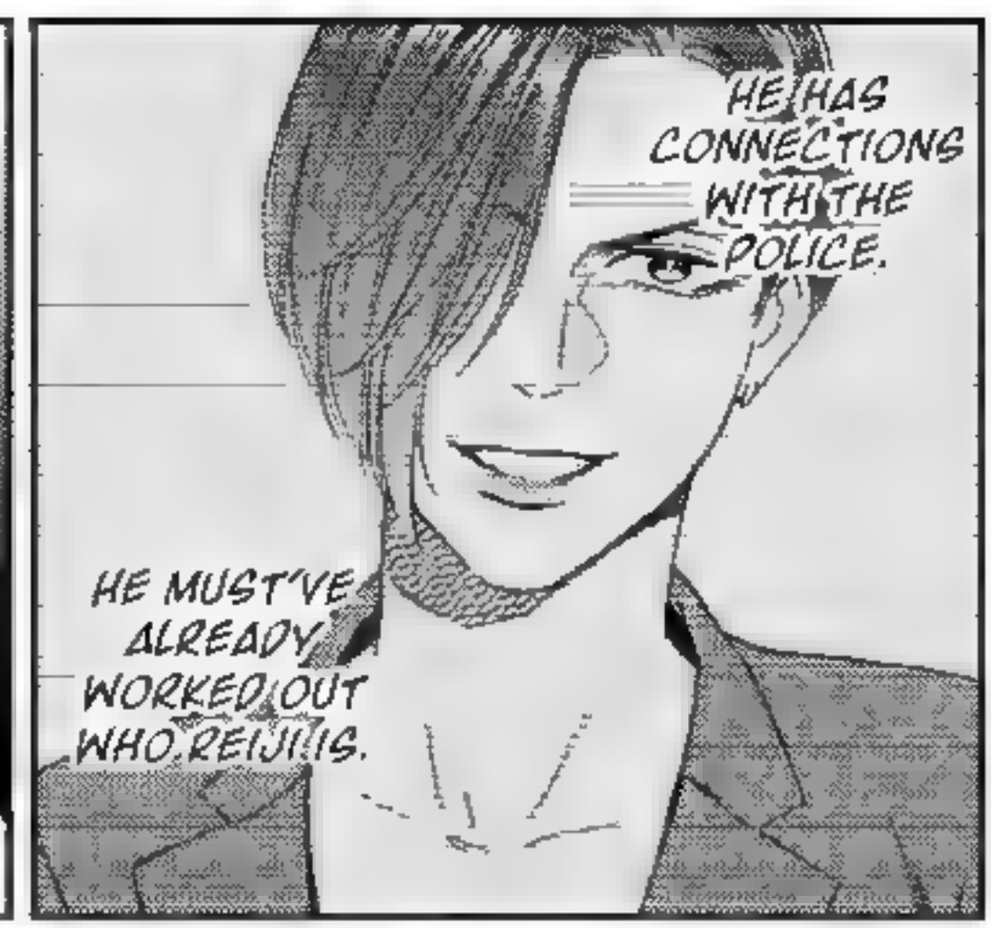
THAT HYOUDOU...

COULD GO EASILY EXPOSE HIMSELF TO ME, MAKE HIMSELF SO VULNERABLE

THIS MAN STANDING IN FRONT OF ME RIGHT NOW,

WHAT IS IT? THIS SENSE OF UNEASE.

"HOW FAR ARE YOU WILLING TO GO?"



YOU MUST THINK YOU'VE HIDDEN THOSE BRATS SOMEWHERE SAFE.

I'VE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THAT YOU'D TAKE HIS LITTLE BROTHER OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.

I'VE READ YOUR MOVES. IT'S MY WIN.

不來方診療所

SCRAPE

ON SIGN KOZUKATA CLINIC

... THAT YUKIO CAN RUN AND HIDE.

THERE'S NOWHERE IN THIS TOWN...

SPEAK SO SHARPLY?

HOW COULD THIS MAN...

AND YET, HOW...

I CAN'T FEEL EVEN A BIT OF BLOODLUST.

NOW THAT WE'VE REACHED THIS POINT,

CLENCH

THAT RESERVED EXTERIOR...

... IS SUCH AN EYESORE.

I WANT TO HURRY UP AND END THINGS.
IT'S POINTLESS TO CONTINUE THIS CHARADE.
THAT'S ENOUGH, DOUMOTO.

CHANGE OF PLANS.
SU.
AL,

FIRST, KILL THIS MAN.

I ALREADY HAVE THE POWER.

I'LL TRAMPLE OVER EVERYONE YOU BASTARDS HOLD DEAR.

I'LL...

YOU'RE GOING TO RESET THIS TOWN?

THEN I'LL DO IT MYSELF!

SLIP

DESTR-

To Be Continued

KYUUGOU

I'M SORRY THERE ISN'T MORE BL STUFF IN THIS RIGHT NOW. I'LL DO MY BEST!